

Nebraska Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board Meeting
October 7, 2004
NPSC Library
1200 N Street, Suite 300, Lincoln, Nebraska

The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board meeting met on October 7, 2004, in Commission Library, Nebraska Public Service Commission in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mark Masterton called the meeting called to order at 11:04 a.m.

The following Advisory Board members were present:

Sheriff Neil Miller
Roger Goos
Bob Howard
Gary McLaughlin
Kevin Hergott

Also present from the Commission were Commissioner Lowell Johnson, Kara Thielen, Lynn Marshall, Angela Melton and Joan Raffety.

Emergency Agenda Items

There were no emergency agenda items.

Approval of Agenda

Roger Goos motions to approve the agenda. Kevin Hergott seconds the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion carries

Sheriff Miller moved to correct minutes from last meeting. Mark Masterton advised that this is addressed later on the agenda.

Director Thielen advised the Board that Mark McCue had called her to advise that he had resigned his position at the Alliance Police Department and has additionally resigned from the Board therefore creating a vacancy on the Board. Discussion was had regarding the appointment of a new advisory board member.

**Review and consideration of funding for South Sioux City, Dakota County
911 equipment request by Pat Foust.**

Director Thielen advised the Advisory Board that Pat Foust was unable to be present; however, Stacy Gross is present on their behalf. Director Thielen advised that Dakota County is not going with one of the vendors-of-choice. They received a grant to

put in a Regional Interoperable Communications System with Woodbury County, Iowa and Sioux City, South Dakota.

Ginny Vance entered the meeting.

Discussion continued regarding the funding request of South Sioux City, Dakota County. Director Thielen advised that this payment would occur in the order of the rollout plan and that the vote today would be to fund the request, however, a timeline for funding the request will not be decided at this time. This will just approve that Dakota County proceed. The request is for an undetermined dollar amount at this time. Dakota County will have to come back before the Board when a dollar figure is available. Director Thielen recommends the request approve their carrier-of-choice. This will just approve that Dakota County can proceed. Mark Masterton made a motion to approve the request. Sheriff Miller seconds the motion. Vance, Masterton, Miller, McLaughlin, Goos voted aye, Kevin Hergott abstained. Motion carries.

Review of Workshop for Phase II Planning

Director Thielen advised the Board that the Workshop that was held for PSAPs to select their vendors-of-choice was a success and that there was a lot of positive feedback from both the vendors and the PSAPs.

Brainstorm Session for Phase II Rollout Plan

Director Thielen informed the Board that she and Lynn had been working on determining potential ways to rollout Phase II implementation. The Board was requested to brainstorm for different options to rollout Phase II due to the fact that it will not be possible to rollout all PSAPs at the same time due to financial constraints. She advised that the surcharge may need to be raised.

Options Suggested by Board Members:

1. Number of calls received.
2. Square miles covered.
3. Whether carriers will be requesting cost recovery.
4. Determine where cell towers are and then overlay with who is Phase I today and who is taking the most calls and population.
5. Longer response time with fewer personnel to cover calls.
6. Carriers may not have penetration to cover. Area where phones are – AT&T, Viera, Pinpoint and Indigo will be network-based. This will be more expensive to implement.
7. Population base along the interstate.
8. Where is the greatest impact of the public.
9. Could delay funding any Phase II requests until all PSAPs are implemented with Phase I. This could allow the Fund to build up a surplus.
10. Move forward with Phase I, but take into account what can be done with Phase II.

11. Do a rollout with the two carriers running a selective router – Qwest and Alltel

Kevin Hergott advised that he felt that Legislature should be approached regarding raising the surcharge.

Director Thielen advised that she had spoken to the League of Municipalities and NACO and some of the PSAPs regarding raising surcharge.

Director Thielen advised that the letter was not sent. Discussion was had regarding the fact that the Commission shouldn't be involved in forcing the PSAPs to work together. The PSAPs have their own politics that they're working with in those situations. The PSAPs have to want to work with the other PSAP.

A suggestion was made that Phase II could be considered when 80 to 90 percent of the state had been implemented Phase I, but continue to move forward with Phase II business plans.

Director Thielen presented the rollout options that she had developed:

1. Population based
2. I-80 corridor
3. Wireless Phase I rollout
4. WSP not seeking cost recovery
5. Total number of E911 Calls
6. Not do it at all, wait to be completed with Phase I

A break was taken for lunch at 12:12 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 12:58 p.m.

Further discussion was had regarding rollout of Phase II. Kevin Hergott advised that he felt that the rollout should start with the areas that would be least expensive. Director Thielen suggested that the rollout should occur where it is going to have the biggest impact.

Discussion is had regarding the Advisory Board recommending a resolution.

Discussion was had regarding getting the surcharge increased through the Legislature. Until surcharge is increased, will only work on Phase I. But until the surcharge is increased will not be able to move forward with Phase II.

Discussion was had regarding the fact that the landline 911 surcharge has been losing revenue due to the decrease in landline access lines in the state and the fact that the number of wireless access lines has been increasing. A suggestion was made to increase the wireless E-911 surcharge to \$1.50 and then to add an additional \$.25 to reimburse PSAP for loss of revenue from landline surcharge.

The Advisory Board suggested that a plan be developed to implement Phase II for PSAPs with no carrier cost recovery, then plan for Phase II by location, population and priority and continue to implement Phase I requests as they come in.

Mark Masterton commented that we may want to make a recommendation to the Commission to delay any Phase II activity until legislation is passed to increase the surcharge. Phase I implementation will continue during this time period. Evaluate status of the fund with increase of the surcharge and then proceed with Phase II rollout plans as funds are available.

A concern is expressed that due to the fact that the amount of wireline access lines are decreasing, the wireline surcharge income is decreasing. Kevin Hergott motions to approve the recommendation of Mark Masterton with the addition of the wireline concern to the resolution. Ginny Vance seconds the motion.

Director Thielen advised that based upon the current amount of money in the Fund, we are at a point where we are going to look at Phase I requests; however, without additional revenue we do not have the funding to move forward with Phase II implementation.

With all Board members present voting aye, motion carries to recommend the above resolution.

A break was taken at 1:46 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 2:04 p.m.

Discussion of Phase II plan; Requests for reimbursement; costs to be covered

Discussion tabled at this time

Consideration of approval of minutes of last meeting of August 13, 2004

Sheriff Miller advises that the list of advisory board members present does not reflect that he was present at the August 13, 2004, meeting. Change should be made to reflect that Sheriff Miller was present. Motion made to accept minutes as modified. Kevin Hergott seconds the motion. With all Board members present voting aye, motion carries.

Receive any correspondence

No correspondence received.

Discussion of Rules and Regulations

Director Thielen discusses the priority of PSAP requests for funding. Discussion is had regarding funding of PSAPs when there is more than one PSAP in a county. There are four counties that have two PSAPs -- York/York, Crete/Saline, Fremont/Dodge, and

Lexington/Dawson. Director Thielen discusses whether the Board should be dictating how the local jurisdictions determine this situation.

Discussion is had regarding the 911 calls that are answered in a county other than the county they were placed in. Selective router will correct this problem.

Discussion is had regarding the process of legislation.

Set date for next meeting

Meeting date will be later determined. Meeting to occur sometime in January or February.

Discussion is had regarding other legislation regarding landline 911 surcharge.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.